

“The Wellspring of *Koinonia*: God’s Delight in Being God”

**John 17:1-26
January 10, 2010**

Questions for Study & Reflection

1. Given that the word *koinos* means “common,” what does the word *koinonia* mean? How is this meaning affected for Christians by the fact that our connection is Christ?
2. You probably know and believe the truth that “God is love,” but have you come to feel the force of this truth at an emotional level? Do you understand why this is important?
3. Why does the wrath of God present a challenge to this? How is the wrath of God related to the love of God? How do we know that love, not wrath, is foundational to the being of God?
4. Why does the doctrine of divine election present a challenge to this? How do we know that God, in election, is not cold, unfeeling, and arbitrary?
5. Why does the reality of suffering present a challenge to this? How can you strive to allow biblical truth to shape how you think about circumstances and not the other way around?
6. Why is it proper for God to delight in himself as God and not just in what he does?
7. What does the Father/Son language in John 17:1ff tell you about the relationship between Jesus and the Father?
8. Read John 17:4-5 very carefully and contemplate what Jesus’ words imply the relationship between the Father and the Son. Do you see why Pastor Charlie said that this is the “center of the center, the fountain from which all other love flows, including our love of one another”?
9. Read John 17:24-26 very carefully and contemplate the fact that the Father gave his glory to the Son because “he loved him.” What does this tell you about the relationship between the glory and the love of God for God?
10. Do you see how the love of God for God is the wellspring of our *koinonia*?